

WESTERN KANSAS WORLD

PRINTS ALL OFFICIAL COUNTY NEWS

WA-KEENEY, KANS., JULY 26, 1917

39TH YEAR—NUMBER 22

The WaKeeney State Bank

Capital and Earnings \$60,000.00
Does a General Banking business
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WILL BE FIRST SUMMONED



Fred H. Kessler of Wa-Keeney

His number was 258, the first one drawn from the glass urn at Washington in the human lottery, and he will be the first person summoned to appear before the examining board of this county. He is a young farmer living a few miles northwest of this city.

WILL ANSWER FIRST CALL

We publish herewith the names of the first 98 young men of Trego county who will be called upon to appear for examination as to their qualifications for service in the United States army in the present war with Germany. The numbers appear in the order in which they were reported to have been drawn at Washington. This county will be called upon to furnish forty-nine young men, hence we publish ninety-eight presuming that with those who have already gone the quota will be filled within the first hundred. The names and numbers are:

258 F. H. Kessler, Wa-Keeney.
458 H. A. Wahlborg, Ogallah.
337 Carter Brown, Wa-Keeney.
275 E. H. L. Holcomb, Wa-Keeney.
126 Harry Kite, Wa-Keeney.
107 Judd William Anderson, Ogallah.
373 C. B. Kemper, Ellis.
486 W. F. Kriht, Collyer.
507 P. T. Tidball, Collyer.
309 Theodore Dietz, Wa-Keeney.
437 R. C. McKenzie, Ransom.
43 Valentine Weigel, Ellis.
420 H. R. Fabrizius, Wa-Keeney.
514 L. Ziegler, Collyer.
433 H. E. Mason, Ransom.
10 Ernest G. Mensing, Wa-Keeney.
487 C. E. Kellogg, Collyer.
140 George T. Clark, Arnold.
432 H. H. McKinley, Wa-Keeney.
18 Wm. Papas, Wa-Keeney.
182 F. W. Staats, Wa-Keeney.
513 Peter Zeigler, Collyer.
46 Archie E. Trexler, Ogallah.
223 B. Meyer, Wa-Keeney.
117 Chester Arthur Riggs, Banner.
390 I. Augustine, Ellis.
75 Joseph A. Kellogg, Ogallah.
280 A. H. Hillman, Wa-Keeney.
332 C. E. Griffith, Ellis.
379 W. S. Schuman, Wa-Keeney.
298 E. W. Gibson, Wa-Keeney.
343 R. O. Biakely, Ogallah.
15 Pryce George Owens, Collyer.
452 S. M. Stoskoff, Ransom.
355 A. Sprickline, Ellis.
218 T. A. Phares, Wa-Keeney.
31 Gustave Deutscher, Ellis.
131 Wm. Baurer, Wa-Keeney.
183 John Schenck, Wa-Keeney.
56 Frances Everd Nixon, Ogallah.
5 John Frederick Evers, Collyer.
350 Ernest Turner, Ellis.
54 Randall J. Reid, Ogallah.
440 J. P. Popp, Ransom.
269 E. A. Johnson, Russell.
335 Chas. Beals, Hanna, Mo.
436 E. Morell, Collyer.
341 A. Augustine, Ellis.
353 E. L. Smith, Brownell.
390 C. Parsons, Ellis.
488 H. H. Lucas, Collyer.

72 Martin Norman Lofstead, Ogallah.
356 J. J. Rourke, McCracken.
112 Martin A. Teeters, Collyer.
128 John Walter Harvey, Banner.
11 Frank V. Malinowsky, Collyer.
363 C. E. Nelson, Brownell.
6 Elmer Rudolph Guyer, Wa-Keeney.
327 R. E. Bennett, Wa-Keeney.
93 Annie DeMurry, Ogallah.
345 O. W. Braddy, Wa-Keeney.
103 Henry D. Buchholz, Ogallah.
154 Edmond O'Toole, Banner.
51 George Stegman, Ellis.
30 Emil Deutscher, Ellis.
199 Geo. Spitznagle, Wa-Keeney.
388 F. C. Bowman, Wa-Keeney.
406 C. C. Morton, Ellis.
25 Leonard Zeman, Collyer.
392 A. E. Ash, Palco.
382 Peter Dechamp, Ellis.
122 Paul Oscar Lamle, Bosna.
222 R. S. Pierson, Wa-Keeney.
297 H. M. Gordon, Wa-Keeney.
321 S. G. Coleman, Ogallah.
368 Emil Massier, Ellis.
320 E. Claycamp, Wa-Keeney.
121 John Daniel McKnight, Banner.
107 Boffalt Perez, Wa-Keeney.
292 D. S. Grooms, Collyer.
504 V. Schack, Collyer.
470 C. E. Downie, Collyer.
312 F. W. Deines, Wa-Keeney.
90 Ludwig Deutscher, Ogallah.
191 W. R. Stanton, Wa-Keeney.
477 Chas. Hladek, Collyer.
130 Jerry Dabily, Banner.
108 E. A. Ward, Wa-Keeney.
424 W. J. Holmes, Ransom.
175 G. S. Thomas, Wa-Keeney.
278 A. C. Hefner, Wa-Keeney.
300 Jose Gonzales, Wa-Keeney.
386 Eugene N. Brown, Wa-Keeney.
212 H. M. Rinker, Wa-Keeney.
49 Henry Wm. Schroeder, Ogallah.
8 Wm. Hall, Wa-Keeney.

DICTAGRAMS

The Wa-Keeney chautauqua begins on Sunday—next Sunday—and everybody ought to hear the afternoon concert—the prices are only 25 and 15 cents.

Hon. J. G. Camp, who lectures here next Sunday evening, delivered the first lecture on the first course of entertainment given in Wa-Keeney. That was about fourteen years ago. It was a cold evening and the number in attendance was not so large as it should be next Sunday evening. Owing to the limited attendance the lecturer said he was reminded of the garden of Eden; not many there but they all belonged to the first families.

Another of Camp's epigrams was this pithy statement: "Front yard is reputation, but back yard is character."

The fact is that there are several old friends on the Chautauqua program, and one of them is Emily Waterman. She was a member of the first concert company—the first number of the first course—and was here again about eight years ago. She is one of the most successful entertainers who have ever appeared here.

John Brodie is a great singer of Scotch songs. He will be here with the Cecilia choir, Thursday afternoon and evening.

One of the new lecturers is Rev. Father Fleming who will deliver a patriotic address Thursday afternoon. His lecture should appeal to all classes of citizens and should prove of special interest to our Catholic friends.

Elliott A. Boyd delivered one of the best lectures ever heard in Wa-Keeney about eight years ago. He is worth hearing, again and again.

Seventeen of the twenty-four people who will appear on the Wa-Keeney chautauqua platform have never been here before. Perhaps the most noted of these is John Merritte Driver. His address on Tuesday evening will deal with the war situation. The prices that evening will be 50 and 25 cents.

WESTERN KANSAS

(By T. A. McNeal in Farmer's Mail and Breeze.)

On the Fourth of July I attended a celebration at the town of Wa-Keeney, the capital of Trego County. In several ways that was the most remarkable Fourth of July celebration I ever attended. According to the biennial report of the state board of agriculture, Wa-Keeney ranks as the 136th city in the state in point of population, which is given as 1,051. The total population of Trego county is given as 5,620. I want you to keep those figures in mind when you are disposed to question my first statement. The attendance at this celebration was estimated at from 5,000 to 7,000. I think 5,000 is a conservative estimate. In short, there were about as many persons at the celebration as constitute the entire population of the town and county. It was estimated that there were 1,000 automobiles in the town that day. I did not count them, but I know the town was almost filled with machines, and not many were cheap machines, either. Estimating an average of four persons to a car, and the average was probably higher than that, 4,000 persons rode into the little town in cars that day.

It was some crowd. It was the biggest crowd, considering the size of the town and the limited population of the county I ever had seen. During the entire day I did not hear one fire-cracker or cap pistol. Can you beat it? During the time of the speaking and listening of the speaker, the speaker gave a single whoop, nor did any one in loud and raucous tones invite anyone to come forward and try his skill in knocking down rag babies or moving rabbits or imitations of other wild, shy animals. I ask you again, can you beat it? Most wonderful of all, 4,000 or 5,000 of the crowd actually either sat or stood still and listened attentively and patiently to what the speaker had to offer, and even encouraged them with discriminating applause. Did you ever hear of the like at a Fourth of July celebration? I never did. I wandered about thru the crowd both in the forenoon and afternoon and did not see one man who gave the slightest signs of intoxication, nor did I hear a boisterous or profane word.

Again, I wish to ask, can you beat it? Trego is one of the great wheat counties of Kansas. The farmers of the county harvested last year 128,157 acres of wheat valued at \$3,490,494, an average of more than \$700 for every man, woman and child in the county, and I might remark in passing that it is pretty hard to beat that. The crop is a failure this year. Naturally, you would expect to find the people blue, discouraged and maybe abusing the government. If there was a complain in the crowd, I did not happen to meet him or hear him. Again, I wish to ask, can you beat it?

I have had occasion several times to express my admiration for the people of Western Kansas. They are not all saints by any means. They make no pretensions of extraordinary goodness. If they did I would be suspicious of them at once. Look out for the man who boasts of his own virtue. He will bear watching and nine times out of ten will prove to be a fraud. What I do claim for the people of Western Kansas is that they are the most courageous, the most law-abiding and the best natured people I have ever known. This year, you would suppose that they would complain as I have said, but they do not. They exhibit a cheerful philosophy worthy of praise and emulation.

I have been seeking the reasons for the state of mind I found in Western Kansas. A friend of mine who is something of a philosopher himself figures it out this way: The people of Western Kansas are the result of elimination by adversity. The weaklings could not stand the process, and got out of the country. Those who are left, tried and toughened by the hardships they are compelled to endure, made resourceful by the difficulties they have been forced to overcome or starve, naturally are resourceful, self-reliant and optimistic. They know that there can scarcely be anything in the way of hard luck ahead of them that is as bad as what they have already endured and overcome, so they face the future with a calm confidence which amazes the easterner who goes out there and sees the people facing what looks like almost a total crop failure, with untroubled spirit and unshaken courage.

Go among them, talk to them and you will discover that there is a larger per cent of educated people than you can find perhaps in any other rural population in the world. Farming in Western Kansas is a gamble, a lottery in which Nature turns the wheel. Sometimes the players draw many prizes of astonishing value and some times they draw blanks. Perhaps for that reason the people have acquired the calm philosophical bearing of the gambler who takes his gains and losses without apparent elation or despondency, always filled with a hope that when fortune frowns it will follow the frown with a smile on another day. These Western Kansas people have apparently acquired the nerve and hopefulness and stoicism of the gambler without his accompanying vices.

There was a time when a dry season would start an exodus from Western Kansas. After a prolonged drought the roads would be lined with covered wagons filled with discouraged people heading eastward. More than once the Western third of the state has been fairly well settled only to be almost abandoned afterwards. That time has passed. A dry season now has little effect on the population of Western Kansas. The people have learned that they can live through the

dry season, and earn more money in the fat years than they could get in a country where rains are abundant and crops certain. Then the dry season has its compensations. You see there is not much work to do and more time for leisure. The people were working about 18 hours a day last year getting their wheat harvested. This year they are not bothered that way, and have plenty of time to attend Fourth of July picnics and enjoy themselves. Last year the I. W. W. were giving them lots of trouble. This year there is none of that nuisance.

By the way, there is a very good story about the I. W. W. and the way the members of that organization were handled by the farmers of Trego county and the people of Wa-Keeney. A large number of the I. W. W. arrived in Wa-Keeney, ostensibly as harvest hands and started in by demanding \$4 a day. That was a pretty stiff wage, the farmers thought, but they would not have objected much to paying it if the I. W. W. members had been of any account after they got in the fields. The trouble was that when they got to the harvest fields they acted as if they were merely the guests of the farmers, and not really expected to do any work. As a result the farmers notified them to skip. Then they went to Wa-Keeney and proceeded to raise havoc. One of them was arrested and put in jail. A large mob of I. W. W.s surrounded the jail, overpowered the sheriff, released the prisoner, and locked the sheriff in the jail instead. The citizens of the town concluded that it was time to act. So the curfew bell then began to ring. That meant that there was a fire, or some other emergency. Also the rural telephone lines were kept busy and the farmers for miles around cranked up their cars and drove into town bringing their shot guns and other shooting irons with them. A bunch of citizens of the town and the farmers formed a hasty organization and rounded up the members of the I. W. W. Every hobo was carefully searched and relieved of his fire arms if he had any. Then they were lined up and guarded until morning when they were taken up their line of march toward Ogallah, nine miles away, and they had no breakfast before starting on their morning walk. When about half way to Ogallah the weary I. W. W.s lay down and refused to move further until they had had something to eat. Generosity then overcame the indignation of the citizens and breakfast was allowed. Then they moved on. At Ogallah they were loaded on the cars and shipped out of the country. That ended the I. W. W. troubles in Trego county.

When W. S. Tilton was editor of the Wa-Keeney World, many years ago, he decided that the state ought to do something to encourage tree planting in Western Kansas. So Tilton went to the legislature and got them to establish two forestry stations, one at Ogallah and the other near Dodge City. The land for the forestry station was given by the enterprising citizens and there were high hopes that within a few years a considerable part of Western Kansas would be covered with beautiful and flourishing forests. That dream I regret to say has been shattered. Maybe politics had something to do with the failure of the forestry stations, but at any rate they failed, and a couple of years ago the state legislature refused to make further appropriations for them. They are marked now by a few scraggy trees that are dying.

Western Kansas is not the home of trees, and probably never will be. There are there have to contend with enemies from the first day. Drouths, high winds, almost innumerable insects that had no wings either walked in or crawled. Gophers discovered that there was noist earth in the tree groves, and they went and dug with unholy joy. Millers laid their eggs and caterpillars were hatched out to gorge themselves on the foliage. Borer beetles, like never seen in that part of the country appeared on the scene of action. Eternal vigilance was the price of trees; and yet right in the heart of Wa-Keeney is a demonstration of what can be done with water and care.

Through the persuasion of Mr. Yetter and a few others the county commissioners were persuaded to plant the square in the middle of which is the court house, with honey locusts. Of course there were persons who joined in an anvil chorus. They said the county was just wasting money planting those trees. They never could be made to grow. Mr. Yetter agreed to keep them alive for a certain length of time and finally won the county commission over. That grove is now a real beauty spot of Trego county, and the pride of not only the town, but of the whole county. The trees have been kept pretty nearly free from the ravages of insects. The court house lawn was sowed to bluegrass and today is one of the finest bluegrass lawns in the state. Dandelions do not seem to travel that far west, and so the lawn is free from that pest. But as Mr. Yetter says it has been a constant struggle. If an administration should get control of the court house which should refuse or neglect to care for those trees for a single season half of them would die and the beauty spot would be ruined. However, I do not believe that it would be possible now to elect a set of county officers who would refuse to care for that grove and

MARGARET SWIGGETT

Bonded Abstracter

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Wa-Keeney, Kansas

(Register of Deeds of Trego County Eight Consecutive Years)

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-DANCE-

SATURDAY NIGHT

JULY 28, 1917

At the Collyer Opera House. Good order and a good time for all. Music by the Musical Reeds. Everybody welcome.

BIG BANNER PICNIC

Good Weather, Good Crowd and a Big Time Reported by Those Who Were There

The annual picnic in the Purinton grove near Banner is developing into one of the big events of this and adjoining counties and notwithstanding the adverse conditions this year the crowd was the largest which has ever assembled in the historic grove. It is estimated that at least 350 autos and vehicles brought in a crowd of two thousand people. The object of the gathering is to have a good time and a picnic dinner in the shade of the fine natural grove on the banks of the Hackberry, and the committees in charge deserve much credit for the plans they made and the successful manner in which they were carried out.

The plans called for opening the gathering in the forenoon by patriotic music by the bands, invocation by the Rev. Stringer and addresses of greetings by the members of the committee. This was followed by the big picnic dinner in which people from all parts of this county and Gove county took part. The program proper took place in the afternoon. This consisted of vocal and instrumental music and a patriotic address by Hon. A. M. Keene, of Fort Scott, Kansas, speaker of the last house of representatives and who is also an avowed candidate for governor next year. He is an excellent speaker and his address was filled with patriotic expressions and was well received by the audience.

The smaller sports consisted of egg races, foot races, a fat man's race and a tug of war. They were entered into with spirit and afforded much amusement. The big attraction was the base ball game between Utica and Quinter teams and the "to be" game between the winner and Wa-Keeney. (The Utica-Quinter game was a good one all the way through and was filled with some good plays. The score was 9 to 5 in favor of Utica. The Wa-Keeney team was on hand to play the winner and the game was called. The Wa-Keeney team was in the field and the pitcher threw three balls to the first Utica batter. Two of them were called strikes but he landed on the third one and sent a fly over first base. It was a good two base hit but he missed touching first by a few feet and the umpire called him out. That ended the game. Utica gathered up her bats and left for home.

The weather was very pleasant for the gathering and the best of picnic spirit prevailed. The crowd stayed until late in the evening and seemed loath to leave the shade of the pleasant grove. Everything went off nicely and it is hoped the next picnic will be even bigger and better than this one.

A bright bunch of girls is the Beverly Entertainers. When they were here last winter the attendance was not so large as it should have been, owing to the very stormy weather. They present a good program.

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